

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 16 and 20-25, AMEND claims 15, and 17-19 in accordance with the following:

1-14. (CANCELLED).

15. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving food, comprising:
preparing Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite in which a part of calcium in calcium hydroxyapatite is substituted with titanium;

sintering the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite at 580 to 660°C for enhancing photocatalytic activity of the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite; and

bringing food into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite for storage, the food being brought into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite by placing the food in a container having an inner surface coated with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite or in a container made of a material containing the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving food, ~~The method according to claim 15 comprising~~;

preparing Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite in which a part of calcium in calcium hydroxyapatite is substituted with titanium;

sintering the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite at 580 to 660°C for enhancing photocatalytic activity of the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite; and

bringing food into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite for storage, wherein said bringing the food into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite includes at least one of wrapping the food in a food wrapping film having a surface coated with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite and wrapping the food in a

food wrapping film made of a material containing the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving food, The method according to claim 15 comprising:

preparing Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite in which a part of calcium in calcium hydroxyapatite is substituted with titanium;

sintering the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite at 580 to 660°C for enhancing photocatalytic activity of the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite; and

bringing food into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite for storage, wherein said bringing the food into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite includes at least one of applying the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite to a surface of the food and adding the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite to the food.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for preserving food, The method according to claim 15 comprising:

preparing Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite in which a part of calcium in calcium hydroxyapatite is substituted with titanium;

sintering the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite at 580 to 660°C for enhancing photocatalytic activity of the Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite; and

bringing food into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite for storage,

wherein said bringing the food into contact with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite includes bringing the food into contact with tableware having a surface coated with the sintered Ti-modified calcium hydroxyapatite.

20-25. (Cancelled).